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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/604,756 | 08/14/2003 | Junaid Syed | 3017 | 1755 |
| 31424 | 7590 | 08/10/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| BABCOCK IP LLC 24154 LAKESIDE DRIVE LAKE ZURICH, IL 60047 | | | A, MINH D | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2821 | |

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AN

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|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/604,756 | SYED ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Minh D A | 2821 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-12 and 14-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.


TUYET VO

PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>8/14/03, 8/29/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-3, 9 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Sharman (US 6,522,305).

Regarding claim 1, Sharman discloses a radome (24) for a reflector antenna having a reflector (10 and 13) with a vertex area (V), comprising: a central portion (10) surrounded by an outer portion (13), the central portion (13) having a radius configured to focus a reflected component of an RF signal reflected by the reflector antenna to the vertex area (V); and the outer portion (10) having a radius greater than the central portion. See figures 2-6, col.2, lines 35-67 to col.5, lines 1-23.

Regarding claim 2, Sharman discloses wherein a transition between the central portion (13) and the outer portion (10) is located at a position where the reflected component from the outer portion closest to the transition reflects from the reflector without intersecting with reflector antenna. See figures 2-6.

Regarding claim 3, Sharman inherently discloses the radome (24) is injection molded dielectric plastic. See col.3, lines 36-74, teach that, the radome is made by conductive dielectric material.

Regarding claim 9, Sharman discloses RF absorbing material located

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in the vertex area. See figures 2-7.

Regarding claims 18-22, Sharman discloses a microwave antenna comprises a feed ; a reflector (10) and a radome (24) adapted to cover said reflector (10), the reflector (10) and radome (24) having interlocking peripheral structures (a peripheral flangs having a plurality screw) configured such that said radome (24) is joined to said reflector by mating said structures and rotating said radome relative to said reflector(10). See figures 2-7, col.2, lines 35-67 to col.5, lines 1-23.

3. Claims 10-12 and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by Pittman (US 6,292,142).

Regarding claims 10 and 15, Pittman discloses a locking assembly for a reflector antenna having a reflector (122) with a vertex area, comprising'. a radome (120) adapted to cover an open end of the reflector', a plurality of tabs (32) formed proximate a periphery of the radome (120); the tabs (32)configured to pass through a corresponding plurality of cut outs formed in a periphery of the reflector (122). See figures 1-8, col.3, lines 6-67 to col.7, lines 1-27.

Regarding claims 11-12, 14 and 16-17, Pittman discloses the tabs (32) retain the radome on the reflector when the radome is rotated after the tabs are passed through the cut-outs and a plurality of support posts formed proximate the periphery of the radome which the reflector seats against when the tabs are passed through the cut-outs and a plurality of absorbing retainers arranged proximate a periphery of the radome. See figures 1-8, col.3, lines 6-67 to col.7, lines 1-27.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Sharman (US 6,522,305) in view of Pittman (US 6,292,142).

Regarding claims 4-8 and 19 Sharman discloses the claimed invention except for a plurality of tabs formed proximate a periphery of the radome', the tabs configured to pass through a corresponding plurality of cut outs formed in a periphery of the reflector and a plurality retainers arranged proximate a periphery of absorbing the radome. However, Pittman discloses a plurality of tabs formed proximate a periphery of the radome', the tabs configured to pass through a corresponding plurality of cut outs formed in a periphery of the reflector and a plurality retainers arranged proximate a periphery of absorbing the radome. See figures 1-3, col.3, lines 7-67 to col.7, lines 1-26.

It would have been an obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a plurality of tabs formed proximate a periphery of the radome', the tabs configured to pass through a corresponding plurality of cut outs formed in a periphery of the reflector and a plurality retainers arranged proximate a periphery of absorbing the radome such as that suggested by Pittman in the reflector

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antenna of Shaman to provide a easily and quickly unlocked and disengaged from the locking assembly by depressing a finger tab of the locking.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 7 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art does not teach that, a plurality of locking clips configured to compress when the tabs are passed through the cut outs; the locking clips decompressing into the cut outs when the radome is rotated after the tabs are passed through the cut outs; the locking clips decompressed into the cut outs inhibiting further rotation of the radome in depending claims 7 and 13.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Butle (US 6,437,757) and Desargant et al. (US 6,570,540) are cited to show a reflector antenna.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Minh A whose telephone number is (571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 –2:30 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong, can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone numbers for

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the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Technology Center receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1553.



**TUYET VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Examiner

Minh A

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8/08/04